YMN
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Yamaha engineer a world first

SPORTS BOAT AND RIB

"In any context the F350 is a powerhouse of an engine. That it's an outboard is barely believable."

Yamaha has introduced the world's first-ever V8 four-stroke outboards. The 5.3-litre F350 and F300 engines are designed to deliver plenty of power while still retaining the benefits of a conventional outboard.

So if you don't want to lose any inboard space but still get an engine that is more powerful than the rest, more fuel efficient, as well as being easier and cheaper to maintain then these engines could be your answer.

The F350 delivers up to 45 per cent more thrust than other 250hp-class outboards while its 60-degree V8 configuration and in-bank dual exhaust provides tremendous torque.

Its 32-valve, DOHC (Double Overhead Camshaft) design allows the F350 and F300 to breathe freely, plus its VCT (Variable Camshaft Timing) dramatically increases torque in the crucial low- and mid-RPM ranges.

Standard on both outboards is Yamaha's digital network system. This features smooth, user-friendly electronic throttle and gearshift control.

Yamaha has designed a new line of propellers for the F300 and the F350. The Saltwater Series XL propellers are larger in diameter than any previous outboard propeller and have a greater blade area, which provides the raw thrust needed for large offshore boats.

WELCOME

Introducing the world of Yamaha Marine, brought to you by Yamaha Marine News.

The big stories this issue are the launch of the world's first V8 four-stroke outboards and the FX SHO Waverunner – Yamaha's most powerful ski... ever. But don't forget the launch of Yamaha's first five-year warranty scheme on four-stroke outboards.

We've also got the low-down on changes to the Tehri small boat range and a look back at ten years of Waverunners. Plus you'll find all the usual news about new crafts, new engines, new hulls and, of course, the all-important special offers.

It's a packed issue, enjoy.

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Five-year outboard warranty

Yamaha's recent product development has been relentless, clearly showing the company's commitment across all markets and horsepower bands. Now that commitment to customer satisfaction is extended further with news of a full five-year warranty on outboards.

All Yamaha four-stroke outboard motors are now supplied with a full five-year warranty for all leisure users. The deal covers motors imported by YMUK and bought in the UK between October 26, 2007, and June 30, 2008.

And Yamaha says the warranty scheme will include both parts and labour cover. 'The Yamaha warranty is transferable with the outboard and a full authorized dealer service history can often lead to higher resale or trade-in values,' said a Yamaha spokesman.

Previously, Yamaha outboards purchased in the UK for leisure use carried a three-year manufacturer's warranty, with commercial users receiving a warranty of one year.

The new five-year warranty deal covers every engine in the Yamaha four-stroke outboard range from the smallest, the F2.5, to the most powerful production model, the V8 F350.

But owners must comply with the recommended Yamaha outboard operation and all regular service schedules (see the relevant owner's handbook for details). And the work must be carried out by an authorized outboard dealer within the Yamaha Motor UK network, say the company.

In addition, all engines must be serviced and run using Yamaha approved parts, accessories and specialist Yamalube oils. This is the only range of lubricants specifically formulated by Yamaha factory technicians for use with Yamaha four-stroke outboards.

For more information visit: www.yamaha-motor.co.uk

Race-bred hull for Superjets

A newly designed hull on the '08 Superjet promises to raise the bar for stand-ups. Easily identifiable by bulging sides at the front and slimmed-down rear end, the hull offers increased stability both at high speed and during turning.

Longer ribs on the bottom of the hull improve turning, while the redesigned bottom lines significantly increase the length of the waterline and that means better dynamic stability – especially on rough water.

Race champion Nicolas Rius worked closely with Yamaha on the project to design a ski that gives you the potential to win tough races without compromising on the compact size or weight associated with stand-ups.

A powerful pair

Yamaha announces not one but two new 9.9hp four-stroke models, the F9.9F and the High Thrust FT9.9G.

Based on the Yamaha F8 model, these two new four-strokes are the smallest and most economical outboards in their class. In fact they're so small, they're almost identical in size to the original Yamaha two-stroke 9.9.

And that means you get the convenience and economy of Yamaha's four-stroke technology, without adding extra bulk or weight. Both models have integral handles, which makes them easy to use and even easier to transport.

Techies will appreciate the in-line twin-cylinder design with its single overhead camshaft, lightweight 212cc aluminum block. The rest of us will be content with the fact that it's smaller, lighter and offers even better performance over the F8.

If you've got a heavier boat and don't think the new F9 range is for you then think again. The High-Thrust FT version uses a higher gear ratio and patented dual-thrust propeller to deliver increased pulling, pushing and stopping power.

In short, these new outboards from Yamaha offer the upgrade in power without the compromise on space or portability. Good things really do come in small packages.

Top Ten hits

A decade at the top is an achievement for any company, but Yamaha has produced two icons that still dominate on land and on water – the WaveRunner GP series and the R-Series sports motorcycle. The GP1200 PWC and the YZF-R1 motorcycle were both released in 1997 aiming to rewrite the rules for muscle craft performance. The ten year reign is a testament that good design and good engineering knows no bounds.

Following the introduction of the original GP1200 and GP760, the GP800 was launched a year later with its power valve two-cylinder two-stroke engine. The next milestone in the GP series was the introduction of the GP1200R in 2000 with its new styling and the first power valve triple. Finally the GP1300R arrived in 2003 raising the bar yet again.

YZF-R1 motorcycle followed a similar path with the YZF-R6 and a limited edition R7 arriving one year after the original 998cc. The latest R1 and R6 tap into the essence of Yamaha super sport performance – the big rush you get every time you slingshot out of a turn.

The 2008 GP1300R with blue hull is the last PWC GP model as production will stop in 2008. The R series motorcycle range carries the Supersports flag for Yamaha on land.

Get carried away

When you purchase a new F2.5AMHS or F4AMHS from a participating dealer you will receive an exclusive Yamaha outboard carry bag worth £69 – absolutely free!

Recently voted Best Buy in Motor Boats Monthly, the F2.5 is great for tenders and run-arounds.

These tough polyester bags also offer protection for your outboard: a tailored fit that encloses the outboard and propeller for maximum protection, with a full-length zip for access.

These bags are not available for purchase, so hurry down to your official Yamaha dealership while stock last.

MOTOR BOATS MONTHLY BEST BUY

Terhi's four year deal

Terhi has announced a four year warranty and a host of new features for 2008.

The range now features powder coated stainless steel rails with extra high handholds at the bow.

The 6020 Nordic Console will have rear cleats added as standard.

The 4110 will be available in a choice of colours, now including a grey version, and new hull graphics will be available on many of the Tehri models.

Core features will remain unchanged. With over 185,000 Terhi boats manufactured over 35 years it is a wise decision. The foam filled hull utilizes an ABS material that makes the craft light weight. The ABS is able to withstand minor knocks and scrapes much better than traditional glass fibre, something new owners and work boats particularly benefit from.

With the addition of the four year warranty, these boats are even more attractive for 2008.

For more information go to: www.terhi.fi

TERHI WARRANTY 4 YEARS

Yamaha to the rescue

The RNLI has opted for Yamaha VX WaveRunners for its new fleet of rescue craft. The move comes after a successful trial period with the ski in 2007. New VX700 models will replace the older XL machines throughout 2008.

For years, the RNLI has been using a modified version of the personal watercraft (called the rescue watercraft or RWC for short). Their lightweight construction make them easy to manoevre and ideal for towing rescue sleds. And with the power coming from a water jet rather than a propeller, these RWCs can be safely used in the water – even if there are people around.

Finished in high-visibility yellow and red, the new RWCs are fitted with a special adaptor on the back of the body designed to support the front of the rescue sled. Plus a tough plastic keel guard has been fitted to protect the hull should the craft be driven onto the beach in an emergency.

6.8m cruisers boost Yamarin line-up

Yamarin has added two new 6.8-metre crafts to its 20-strong range. The 68 Cabin Cruiser and 68 Day Cruiser are both outboard-powered.

The 68 Cabin can sleep four people and comes equipped with a large sliding roof hatch. It also has a wide sliding door, allowing easy access to the aft cockpit space. There's also a small galley area in the cabin with a washbasin, stove and pressurised water supply fitted as standard.

If your prefer something a bit sportier, then the 68 Day Cruiser might be the boat for you. It can accommodate a variety of engines up to 250hp and has a sheltered cockpit with a full canopy – handy when it tips it down.

With the focus on power and luxury, the 68 Day Cruiser also boasts a folding backrest and large cockpit table that converts into a sunbed. There is also a small galley in the cockpit, containing a fridge-freezer and a 45-litre sink with freshwater tank fitted as standard.

For more information visit: www.yamarin.com

FT60 gets bigger

The new FT60DETX High Thrust engine now allows craft with a 25-inch transom to use the engine. The Yamaha four-stroke outboard range has 49 models ranging from 2.5hp to 350hp, with most available in different lengths, but until now the FT60 unit was only for 20-inch transoms.

The High Thrust engine options are all built with thrust as the main priority over speed. The main difference is the lower gearbox unit with different ratio and extra room between the prop - shaft and cavitation plate, which gives the ability to swing a large diameter propeller with big blade area.
As essentially pushers, they are a good option for displacement hulls, auxiliary engines on larger crafts and catamarans, particularly catamaran fishing vessels.

The engine is included in the new Yamaha engine five year warranty.

Hydra Drive turns pro

Yamaha has unveiled its first new commercially-rated 285bhp inboard diesel stern drive unit.

Designated the ME432Sti P2, the unit is aimed at professional skippers who want good performance coupled with the ability to travel long distances.

Based on Yamaha's existing 24-valve diesel engine, the unit is coupled with the twin-rotating propeller (TRP) Hydra-Drive system.

This new model brings the range up to five: ranging from the updated 165hp ME372 through to the 315hp ME432 High Output. In between there are the 245hp ME422 and the 275hp ME422 High Output.

User reports on the 315hp version indicate that at a 25-30 knot cruising speed it uses less fuel than the 245hp, so Yamaha expects the 285hp version to give an equally good performance.

First shipments of the new P2 are now under way to Redbay in Northern Ireland for installation in three commercial RIBs destined for Ministry of Defence work.

Free rigging package

The Yamaha Flexible Rigging Package will include a control box, propeller and DNG instruments free of charge with each new engine above 50hp, in a promotion due to run until this summer.

The Yamaha Flexible Rigging Program was introduced a few years ago as a solution to the limiting performance obtained from factory standard controls and propellers, which in the past were included with the engines.

A wide range of propellers were developed, as well as control cables, control boxes and four different ranges of instrumentation, including the latest Digital Network Gauge system which uses a LAN computer type wiring system.

Authorized Yamaha dealers can advise on the best solution for each individual case and details of the all the parts can be found on www.yamaha-motor.co.uk

Top of the class

Yamaha has introduced a global standard of education for its marine dealers with the introduction of the Yamaha Technical Academy (YTA). The academy aims to ensure high standards of customer service from Yamaha dealers when dealing with new products, with additional advice available on how Yamaha products meet environmental concerns.

Technical representatives from distributors all over Europe visited Japan in 2006 to finalise the content, and in early 2007 a group of European Service Trainers are visiting YME to be trained by top engineers. This "Train the Trainers" program was the first big step in rolling out the new YTA dealer program.

Yamaha Marine Dealers from all over the UK have now signed up for the YTA course and will progress through three levels to achieve the highest Gold standard award.

The Ultimate WaveRunner

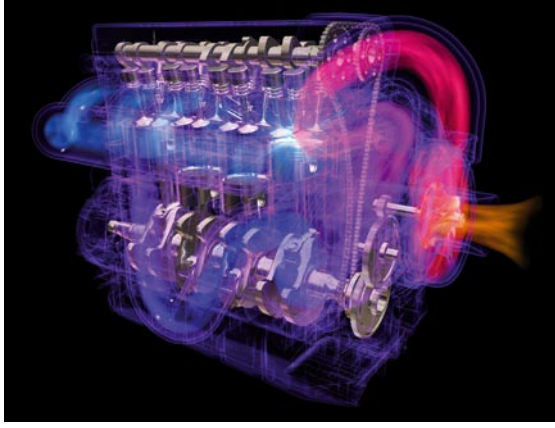
The FX SHO is the flagship WaveRunner which has resulted from two decades of Yamaha WaveRunner development.

Its hull is built with a new super-light material called NanoXcel™ which has won an award for Excellence and Innovation from the American Composites Manufacturers Association. By using it in the hull, deck and other main parts of the craft the weight has been reduced by 25kg compared to conventional materials.

It has a 1,812cc four-stroke, displacement engine and a centrifugal supercharger, with a new lubrication system that combines a compact air-liquid separation chamber and a scavenger pump.

The new SHO and Cruiser SHO bristle with innovative features like the industry-first No-Wake mode, Cruise Assist and Traction control for reversing all designed to make riding more enjoyable. With reboarding step and towing eye the SHO will also prove popular among water-skiers.

Yamaha has set out to make this as close to PWC perfection as possible.



New cat in town

The Powercat 525 is the latest model from Powercat. A catamaran design with an increased beam gives this small boat excellent stability over other boats similar in size, even at a range of speeds.

Simon Everett, who tests boats professionally for a number of publications, said: "The Powercat has a unique ride that has to be felt to be believed. The fine bows cut through the tops of the waves in a piercing fashion, the tunnel provides aerodynamic lift and the chines, carried well forward, create sufficient lift to prevent the bow from stuffing."

He added the landing was far softer than any normal monohull boat he had piloted.

The Powercat 525 is powered by twin Yamaha 40hp engines which are fuelled by independent tanks. This means that in the event of a blockage the boat can manage on one engine, maintaining 18 knots, as long as the blockage is not at the source of the fuel supply.

The helm seating is sheltered behind a wide console and screen, and the hull shape is designed to lift so it planes very quickly. Top speeds recorded are 26 knots from the 80hp combined engines.

Ribeye 10.4 GT stuns crowds

Unveiled at the Southampton Boat Show, the Ribeye 10.4 Gran Tourer was the first boat in the UK to be fitted with Yamaha's 350hp, 5.3-litre V8 engine.

The cabin RIB was developed from the respected Ribtec 1000 with particular attention paid to the hull. The hull's buoyancy is provided by the tubes which ride clear of the water until needed in turns or heavy weather. The Ribtec 1000 has completed ocean crossings and circumnavigation and this was the level of professionalism sought for the Ribeye 10.4 Gran Tourer.

The twin F350 engines fitted to the RIB give 700hp, so it is no surprise the top speeds have been increased. Sea trials conducted by Yamaha have concluded the V8 engines have increased torque and thrust performance so much they have "transformed the acceleration".

For more information www.ribeye.co.uk

PWP keeps it together

The Personal Watercraft Partnership has been commended worldwide for its approach and practice towards keeping the waters open and safe for personal watercraft. Chris Neville-Parry, Executive Director of the PWP, has even been asked to speak at the Manufacturers' International Conferences.

2007 saw the release of a PWP customer leaflet, to inform watercraft users just how effective the PWP is and to give guidance on the sport as a whole.

RYA PW training discount vouchers were given to dealers of personal watercraft. The Where to Launch and Train Guide was also a great success and a new guide will be published for 2008 and distributed free with the May issue of Jet Skier & PW magazine.

A host of PWP seminars and courses have been organised for 2008. A meeting has been organised at the BMF for all PW club officials, anybody who is intending on starting a PW club and anybody who can contribute to the successes of PW clubs in general.

Barry Davies Marine Officer, Gwynedd County Council, said: "Without the continued support, expertise and enthusiasm of the PWP we would not have the level of dialogue with all those concerned with PW on-water management."

For further details on the important PWP work and events www.pwpuk.org